

CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CASTLEREAGH MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE GILGANDRA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2017 COMMENCING AT 10:00AM

PRESENT: Clrs D. Batten (Chairman), P. Shinton, B. Fisher, M. Webb, I. Woodcock, R. Lewis, G. Peart and A. Brewer

ABSENT: Clr M. Beach

Staff Members: D. Ramsland (General Manager), A. Fletcher (Senior Weeds Officer), and A. Carraro (Minute Secretary)

- 1. WELCOME:** Clr Batten welcomed all councillors and staff to the meeting.
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Clrs M. Martinez / R. Lewis and A. Brewer (late arrival)

11/17/1 Resolved:

That apologies from Clrs M. Martinez / R. Lewis and A. Brewer (late arrival) be accepted and leave of absence be granted.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Election of Chairperson/Deputy Chairperson

The General Manager then assumed the Chair as Returning Officer to conduct the Chairperson Elections.

11/17/2 Resolved:

That Council adopt the ordinary ballot method for the election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

Moved: Clr Peart
Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

Election of Chairperson for Ensuring One (1) Year

There being only one nomination for the position of Chairperson, being Clr D Batten the Returning Officer declared Doug Batten as the Chairperson for the ensuring term..

Election of Deputy Chairperson for Ensuring One (1) Year

There being only one nomination for the position of Deputy Chairperson, being Clr M Webb the Returning Officer declared Michael Webb as the Deputy Chairperson for the ensuring term.

Clr Batten then assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- Nil

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

11/17/3 Resolved:

That the minutes of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council meeting held at Walgett on Monday 21 August, 2017, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Clr Shinton

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES - Nil

9. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Chairman Clr Batten reported as follows:

At last week's Hudson Pear meeting held in Lightning Ridge on Thursday 16th November it reaffirmed the group's Terms of Reference and adopted an ongoing Business Management Plan. Two crucial aspects of the plan relate to the need to coordinate Hudson Pear mapping activities and the activities of the various groups and individuals undertaking control works.

Clr Batten advised that at this time there is CMCC controlling Local Government assets and undertaking a regulatory inspection role, Department of Crown Lands assisting various Miners Associations at three Opal Mining sites in the area, individual landowners and other community groups; all undertaking control activities with varying degrees of professionalism and commitment. The situation is now exacerbated by a new strain of biological control, soon to be released by Department of Primary Industries. To measure the effectiveness of the release program, it is necessary that the areas subject to its release are not disturbed.

Following the HPTF meeting informal discussions with the General Manager confirmed that CMCC is the preferred employer of someone responsible for coordinating all Hudson Pear management activities within the region in addition to maintaining relevant mapping records. When not office bound the occupant of the position would be expected to undertake spraying/control activities.

Clr Batten suggested that at this time it is anticipated that total funding of \$450,000 to \$500,000 would be required.

11/17/4 Resolved:

That Council make a formal application to the North West Local Land Services/DPI seeking sufficient funding to enable the contract employment of a Hudson Pear Coordinator at Lightning Ridge for a period of three years, noting that such funding would be additional to WAP funding.

Moved: Clr Shinton

Seconded: Clr Lewis

Carried

11/17/5 Resolved:

That the Chairman's report be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Batten

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Item 10.1 Reconciliation Certificate 31st August, 30th September and 31st October 2017

Recommendation: That the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31st August, 30th September and 31st October 2017 be received and noted.

11/17/6 Resolved:

That the Bank Reconciliation as at 31st August, 30th September and 31st October 2017 be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

Item 10.2 Quarterly Budget Review Statement – Period Ended 31 October, 2017

Recommendation: That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 31 October, 2017 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

11/17/7 Resolved:

That the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the period ended 31 October, 2017 be received and noted and the recommended variations to the revised budget as detailed in the attached statement be adopted.

Moved: Clr Peart
Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

Item 10.3. Organisational Review Update – October 2017

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the General Manager’s report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the revised Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

11/17/8 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the General Manager’s report in respect of the progress being made in respect of the revised Organisational Action Plan and endorse the action taken so far.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

Item 10.4. Annual Financial Statements 2016/2017 - Update

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the General Manager’s report in relation to the delay in completing the audit of the 2016/2017 Statements of Account.

11/17/9 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the General Manager’s report in relation to the delay in completing the audit of the 2016/2017 Statements of Account.

Moved: Clr Lewis
Seconded: Clr Brewer

Carried

Item 10.5. Consideration and Adoption of Annual Report – 2016/2017

Recommendation: That Council consider and adopt the draft 2016/2017 Annual Report and note that the auditor’s figures are still pending.

11/17/10 Resolved:

That Council consider and adopt the draft 2016/2017 Annual Report and note that the auditor’s figures are still pending.

Moved: Clr Lewis
Seconded: Clr Brewer

Carried

Item 10.6. Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy

Recommendation:

1. That Council give notice of its intention to adopt the Draft Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors, in accordance with Section 253 of the Local Government Act.
2. Consider updating the various expenditure limits.
3. And that the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy then be placed on public exhibition and public submissions invited.

11/17/11 Resolved:

1. That Council give notice of its intention to adopt the Draft Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors, in accordance with Section 253 of the Local Government Act.
2. Consider updating the various expenditure limits.
3. And that the Draft Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors Policy then be placed on public exhibition and public submissions invited.

Moved: Clr Webb

Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Item 10.7. Closedown of Outdoor Staff over Festive Season

Recommendation:

1. Council operations will close for a period of two weeks commencing 22 December 2017 till 7 January 2018 inclusive.
2. Staff will be required to take either Annual Leave or accumulative time in lieu during this closedown period
3. The closedown period will be published in local media outlets.

11/17/12 Resolved:

1. Council operations will close for a period of two weeks commencing 22 December 2017 till 7 January 2018 inclusive.
2. Staff will be required to take either Annual Leave or accumulative time in lieu during this closedown period
3. The closedown period will be published in local media outlets.

Moved: Clr Fisher

Seconded: Clr Peart

Carried

Item 10.8. Ordinary Council Meetings –Time, Dates and Venues for 2018

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the below time, dates and venues for the 2018 Ordinary Council Meetings.

19 March – Warren – Council Chambers
18 June – Coonabarabran – Council Chambers
20 August – Coonamble – Council Chambers
19 November – Walgett – Council Chambers

11/17/13 Resolved:

That Council endorse the below time, dates and venues for the 2018 Ordinary Council Meetings.

19 March – Warren – Council Chambers
18 June – Coonabarabran – Council Chambers
20 August – Coonamble – Council Chambers
19 November – Walgett – Council Chambers

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Webb

Carried

Item 10.9. Matters for Brief Mention or Generally for Information Only

Recommendation: That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager’s report to the November, 2017 meeting be received and noted.

11/17/14 Resolved:

That the above issues for brief mention or information only as detailed in the General Manager’s report to the November, 2017 meeting be received and noted.

Moved: Clr Webb
Seconded: Clr Woodcock

Carried

11. SENIOR WEEDS OFFICER’S REPORT

Item 11.1. Senior Weeds Officer’s Report

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Senior Weeds Officer’s Report.

11/17/15 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Senior Weeds Officer’s report for November 2017.

Moved: Clr Fisher
Seconded: Clr Shinton

Carried

Item 11.2. Weeds Officers Reporting – 1 August to 26 October 2017

Recommendation: That Council receive and note the Weed Officers Reports for the period 1 August to 26 October 2017.

6/17/16 Resolved:

That Council receive and note the Weed Officers Reports for the period 1 August to 26 October 2017.

Moved: Clr Woodcock
Seconded: Clr Fisher

Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Clr Michael Webb and Bill Fisher were asked to advise delegates of Coonamble Shire of the activities taking place in relation to correspondence received regarding African Boxthorn within the Coonamble Shire LGA.
2. Clr Shinton advised of a new organic weed spray (Acetic Acid Glacial and Sulfamic Acid) that was being used in Western Australia.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 19 March, 2018 at Warren.

Clr Batten extended best wishes for the season to all present.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11:20AM.

To be confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 19 March 2018.

CHAIRMAN

GENERAL MANAGER